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APPLICANT

Lorna Anne EVERALL et al.

SERIAL NO.

10/665,840

FILING DATE

September 19, 2003

FOR

OPTICAL INTERROGATION SYSTEM AND SENSOR

SYSTEM

GROUP ART UNIT

:

2877

EXAMINER

Tu T. NGUYEN

CONFIRMATION NO.

6046

PAPER ENTITLED: Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

7 pages

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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 13302/2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. :

10/665,840

Confirmation No. 6046

Applicant

Lorna Anne EVERALL et al.

Filed

September 19, 2003

Title

OPTICAL INTERROGATION SYSTEM AND SENSOR SYSTEM

TC/A.U.

2877

Examiner

Tu T. NGUYEN

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The remarks below are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2004.

REMARKS

Preliminarily, Applicants note that they filed a certified copy of the priority document by paper dated February 22, 2005. Applicants respectfully request that, in the next communication, the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the certified copy.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over USP 6,571,027 (Cooper). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, and request reconsideration and allowance of the claims in view of the following arguments.

Looking at the prior art, Cooper teaches a system comprising an optical pulse source and an array of Bragg gratings with provision for gating and amplifying pulses selectively, and (importantly) separately.

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